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September 27, 1994

IN REPLY REFER TO:

CC 92-77

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Dave Camp
U.S. House of Representatives
1401 Longorth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Camp:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of Hank Wayer, Sheriff, Mecosta County, regarding the Commission's Billed Party Preference (BPP) proceeding. On May 19, 1994, the Commission adopted a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in this proceeding. I have enclosed a copy of the Further Notice and press release accompanying it for your information.

The Further Notice sets forth a detailed cost/benefit analysis of BPP. This analysis indicates, based on the available data, that the benefits of BPP to consumers would exceed its costs. The Further Notice seeks comment on this analysis and asks interested parties to supplement the record concerning the costs and benefits of BPP. The Further Notice also invites parties to recommend alternatives to BPP that could produce many of the same benefits at a lower cost.

The Further Notice also explicitly seeks comment on whether correctional facility telephones should be exempt if BPP is adopted. Specifically, the Further Notice seeks additional information on the effectiveness and costs of controlling fraud originating on inmate lines with or without BPP. The Further Notice also seeks comment on a proposal to exempt prison telephones from BPP if the operator service provider adheres to rate ceilings for inmate calling services.

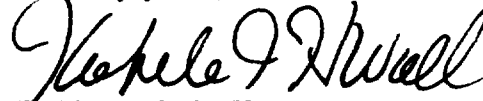
BPP would not preclude prison officials from blocking or limiting inmate calls to specific telephone numbers in order to prevent threatening and harassing calls. Moreover, BPP would not affect the ability of prison officials to limit inmates to collect calling or to program telephone equipment at the prison site to block certain numbers.

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The Honorable Dave Camp
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Thank you for your interest in this proceeding. I can assure you that the Commission will carefully **examine** all of the comments submitted in response to the Further Notice, including additional empirical data regarding the costs and benefits of implementing BPP and the impact of BPP on telephone service from correctional facilities.

Sincerely yours,



Kathleen M.H. Wallman
Chief
Common Carrier Bureau

Enclosures



DAVE CAMP
4TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

MEMBER:
COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
SELECT REVENUE MEASURES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES

94CH182 04P 92-77

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2204

August 17, 1994

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Mr. Reed E. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

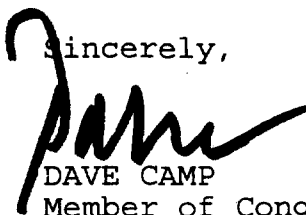
I am writing with regard to recent correspondence you received from a constituent, Sheriff Hank Wayer of Mecosta County, Michigan. Sheriff Wayer has expressed his concerns about the proposed Billed Party Preference (BPP) rule before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

I share Sheriff Wayer's concerns about maintaining control of the Vendor/Carrier telephone service for inmates. I believe the security of prison facilities and the safety of the local communities must be considered by the FCC before implementing the proposed BPP rule. I have enclosed a copy of Sheriff Wayer's letter to you. I would be grateful if you would [REDACTED] concerns. Please forward a [REDACTED] office as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,


DAVE CAMP
Member of Congress

DLC:kre
Enclosure

MECOSTA COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT
HENRY "HANK" WAYER
SHERIFF

JAMES F. STOCKWELL
UNDER SHERIFF

LAWRENCE COX
JAIL ADMINISTRATOR

August 5, 1994

Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C.

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hunt:

This Correctional Facility is opposed to the implementation of Billed Party Preference (BBP) at Jails.

Based on our security needs and the well-being of the citizens of our community, it is obvious to us that we must maintain control of the Vendor/Carrier the inmates in our facility use for phone service.

If the control is taken away from us, we could not afford to supply the necessary equipment to facilitate this service to our inmates, therefore, the service would have to be eliminated due to the loss of funds received from the service.

Concerning rates charged to Inmates. We are sensitive to them, in fact, had a vendor overcharging in our opinion, and the rate for calls was reduced to the inmates after we notified the vendor of our concern.

In closing, its important that we maintain control over inmate phone services for several reasons that include: security of our facility, security for the Citizens of our community, and to be able to continue this service to the inmates in our facility.

Thank You very much for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,


Henry (Hank) Wayer
Sheriff


Lawrence Cox
Jail Administrator